



CULTURE AND PROSPERITY COMMISSION 27 September 2004

Report of the Chair of the Culture and Prosperity Commission

Scoping Report for the Culture and Prosperity Commission's review of Community Centres

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Commission approve the report setting out the scope of the proposed review of Community Centres

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 At its meeting on 22 July 2004, the Culture and Prosperity Commission selected the following work plan topics for review in 2004/05:
 - a) A review of the Community Centres in Derby
 - b) A review of the way in which the Council promotes the World Heritage Sites in the City
- 2.2 Appendix 2 of this report contains the scoping report for the proposed review of Community Centres.
- 2.3 The review of Community Centres will start in October with the intention of completing it and reporting the findings to the Council Cabinet meeting on 8 February 2005.
- 2.4 Terms of Reference and provisional timetable for the review are included in the scoping report.

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Background papers: None
List of appendices: Appendix 1 – Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. None arising from this report. The review will incur some costs but these will be contained within the Commission's research budget.

Legal

2. None arising from this report.

Personnel

3. None arising from this report.

Equalities impact

4. The review will be of benefit to all Derby people.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

5. The reviews link to the following corporate objectives and priorities for change:
Corporate Objectives: Strong and positive neighbourhoods.
Priorities for Change: Enhancing the community leadership role of the Council; Responding to people's needs.

Scoping Report on the Commission's review of Community Centres in Derby

1. Introduction

When the Culture and Prosperity Commission met on 26 July 2004 it selected two work plan topic reviews for the coming year. These were:

1. A review of Community Centres in Derby, and
2. A review of the way in which the Council is promoting the World Heritage sites in the City.

This report sets out the possible scope of a review of the City's Community Centres.

2. Background to the Review

Appendix A of this report contains a list of the Community Centres that it has been possible to identify in Derby. In the absence of a formal definition of what constitutes a 'Community Centre', this list has been compiled from information obtained from the Internet and from the Council's Community and Play Development Unit.

The Community Centres listed in Appendix A include:

- 16 Independent Community Centres (ICC), all of which hold a lease with the City Council
- 9 Council Run Community Centres (CRCC)
- 14 Local Community Centres (LCC) many of which serve minority ethnic groups

These Community Centres offer their communities a wide range of services. The table below lists just some of the activities that the Independent Community Centres were providing in 2002/03.

Senior Citizens Groups	Summer Playschemes	MP's surgeries
Dancing	Football	Private parties
Martial Arts	Bingo	Dog Training
Mother & Baby groups	Jumble Sales	Clinics
Playgroups	Watercolour classes	Whist
Lunch Clubs	Keep Fit Classes	Brownies
Yoga	Wine tasting	Gardening
Bowls	Sketching	Coffee clubs
Hobbies groups	Music	Sure Start

Budgerigar Society	Angling Club	Police Surgeries
Boxing	Historical Society	French language
Camera Clubs	Wildlife Society	Opera
Amateur dramatics	Weightwatchers	Mothers Union

In 2002/03, the Education Service carried out a detailed survey of the Independent Community Centres. A copy of the report on the outcome of this survey, entitled 'Community Centres Matter', including its first three Appendices, is reproduced in Appendix B of this report. The report summarises the services provided by the 16 Independent Community Centres and highlights the problems that they were facing in 2002/03.

The survey found that in the year in question there were 440,390 visits to the Derby's Independent Community Centres. It was also found that the Independent Community Centres were providing their services at a cost of £0.30 per user, as compared with the Association of Public Service Excellence figure of £1.50 per user at Council Run Community Centres. The survey found varying levels of usage across the 16 ICC and the reasons for this were identified as depending upon:

- The size of the centre and the number of rooms available for hire
- The location of the centre
- The age and number of the local population
- The strength of the centre's committee
- Publicity
- Charges
- The standard of the premises
- Vandalism
- Outside lighting
- Car Parking
- Bar facilities
- Heating
- Storage

It was reported that even the best used centres had one if not more, negative factors, and that where there were more negatives than positives, the centre committee had a much harder job to make the centre successful.

The survey report made six recommendations. These were:

1. To improve the building maintenance of Community Centres
2. To provide more staff to support the voluntary management Committees and to give on-site help and advice
3. To help with publicity
4. To help with the sourcing of impartial and expert advice
5. To provide capacity building support to the centres and the associations
6. To ensure that the volunteers who work in the centres felt recognised and valued for the work that they did.

There would be very little value in the Commission repeating the survey work that was carried out by the Education Service in 2002/03, but if the Commission is minded to proceed with its review of Community Centres in Derby, there are several other areas that it could usefully explore. These options, which all to some extent build upon the previous work of the Education Service, include the following:

- An assessment of the demand for Community Centres in Derby. This could be aimed at finding out the public's perception of Community Centres, identifying what they would like them to provide, and seeing how well current service provision is meeting demand.
- A detailed assessment of the Council Run Community Centres and a comparison of the outcomes of that assessment with the results of the survey of Independent Community Centres.
- An examination of the approach taken by the Local Community Centres and of how the services they provide are perceived by their particular client groups

The way in which this might be done is described in the following sections of this report.

3. Aim and Objectives of the Review

It is suggested that the main aim of the review should be to see how the Council might realistically improve, or enable the improvement, of the huge range of services that the City's Community Centres provide to the people of Derby.

To achieve this aim it is thought that the Commission would need to

- Find out the perception that Derby people have of their community centres and see how this perception varies between different groups
- Establish what Derby people want from their community centres
- Find out whether people feel there are enough community centres and if they are in the right place
- Find out why the successful community centres are successful
- See if there are examples of good practice in the more successful community centres and if there are, see how these might be rolled out to the other community centres.
- Find out what services the CRCC and LCC are providing and why they are providing them
- Identify the problems facing the people that run the CRCC and LCC
- Look at the level of support three types of community centre offer to community activities and see whether this is sufficient to meet demand

4. Stakeholders

There are three main stakeholder groups in this review. These are:

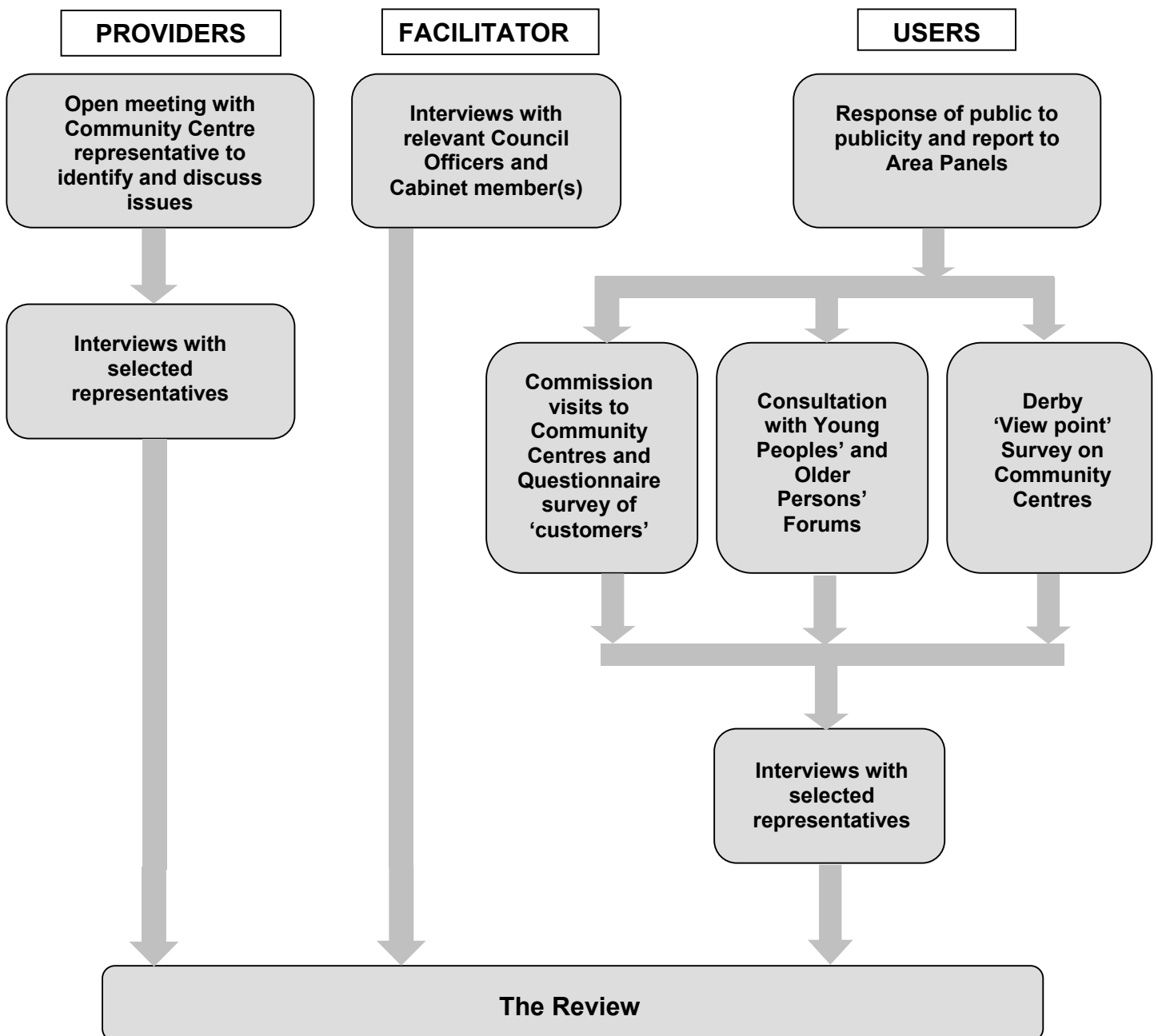
- **The users** – in this case the public
- **The providers** - the community centres
- **The facilitator** – which is the Council

The users and providers will include quite a number of sub-groups.
The Commission will need to make sure that it takes evidence from all the relevant witnesses.

5. Methodology

The suggested methodology for the review is a 'three string' approach with the inputs as shown in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1



The suggested methodology will involve:

- A press release and a report to the Area Panels. The purpose of this is to advise the public in general of the Commission's review.
- An open meeting with representatives of the Community Centre Committees. This will give the 'providers' the opportunity to tell the Commission about the issues that affect them.
- Interviews with witnesses representing the users, the providers and the facilitator. So far as the providers, the Community Centres, are concerned, these interviews would give the Commission the opportunity to compare the ICCs and the CRCCs and to examine the approach taken by the LCCs. The outcome of these interviews could then be further explored by visits to the three different types of Community Centre.
- Visits by Commission members to a representative selection of Community Centres. These visits will enable Commission members to see the facilities and talk to the staff and customers. They will also provide an opportunity to carry out the questionnaire survey of Community Centre 'customers'.
- A questionnaire survey of a representative number of Community Centre 'customers'. This will take the form of short one-to-one interviews based on a standard set of questions. It should be possible to develop and analyse this questionnaire in-house. Commission members will need to be involved administering the questionnaire. To provide a representative sample it is thought that about 250 completed questionnaires will be required. Appendix C contains a copy of the draft questionnaire.
- Consultation with the Young Peoples' and Older Persons' Forums. This should provide information that relates to these specific user groups.
- A Derby 'Viewpoint' survey – either a targeted questionnaire or a focus group. This will cost between £800 and £1500 depending on what is involved. This approach should enable the Commission to get the views of a broad section of Derby people.

6. Terms of Reference of the proposed Review

The terms of reference of the proposed review are as shown in Table 1 on the following page.

Table 1

Terms of Reference		
Issue		Action
1	Appreciation of the issues facing the Community Centre Management Committees	Open meeting with representatives of the Community Centre Management Committees and subsequent interviews with selected representatives
2	Understanding of why the Community Centres are providing the services that they provide	Interviews with selected representatives of the Community Centre Management Committees.
3	Understanding of public's perception of Community Centres and of who uses them	Publicity and Area Panel reports asking for feedback from the public. Derby View Point Focus Group. Consultation with Young Peoples' and Older person's Forum. Interviews with selected representatives. Visits to Community Centres
4	Understanding of what the public would like the Community Centres to provide	Questionnaire based interviews with Community Centre users. Feedback from the public. Interviews with selected representatives.
5	Appreciation of the Council's role in the provision and operation of Community Centres in Derby	Interviews with Council officers and Cabinet Members(s)
6	Development of realistic recommendations for improving, or enabling improvement of, the range and delivery of the services provided by the Community Centres in Derby	Assessment of the evidence and information acquired in the course of the review.

7. Time commitment and provisional timetable

This will be quite a big review. It is anticipated that the Commission will need to interview around 15 witnesses. The review will also involve an open meeting, and there will need to be consultation meetings with representatives of the Young People's and Older Person's Forums. Commission members will probably need to visit at least 10 Community Centres and they will need to commit the time required to complete about 250 questionnaire interviews.

As the next meeting of the Culture and Prosperity Commission is not until 27 September it will not realistically be possible to commence the evidence gathering phase of the review until October 2004.

A provisional timetable for the review is set out in Table 2. Meeting rooms have provisionally been booked for the afternoons of 25 and 27 October and the evenings of 26 and 28 October.

Table 2

	Activity	Provisional dates
1	Press release informing the public about the review and asking for their views.	Early October
2	Open Meeting with Community Centre Management Committee representatives reps – will probably need to be an evening meeting – probably at a Community Centre	13-15 October or week commencing 18 October
3	Interviews with officers and Cabinet members – this will set background and give position. Could also include follow up interviews with selected Community Centre representatives to explore issues raised at public meeting in more detail	Week commencing 25 Oct
4	Report to the November cycle of Area Panel meetings	October-November-December 2004
5	Visits by Commission to selected Community Centres and questionnaire interviews of the public who use them.	October/November 2004
6	Consultation meetings with Young Peoples' and Older Persons' forums	November 2004
7	Derby View Point focus group meeting or survey	November 2004
8	Additional interviews to explore specific issues identified in the course of the review	Late November/early December 2004
9	Circulation of the collated evidence	Mid December 2004
10	Commission meeting to review evidence and agree recommendations	20 December 2004 – this is a scheduled meeting of the Commission
11	Report written, circulated for comments and revised as appropriate	7 January 2005
12	End point – aim for report to 8 February 2005 Cabinet meeting – deadline for draft reports is 20 January 2005	20 January 2005

DRR 25 August 2004

Appendix A

Community Centres in Derby

LCC – Local Community Centre

ICC – Independent Community Centre

CRCC – Council Run Community Centre

LCC	African Community Association 101 Peartree Road Derby	01332 205962
	Alternative Activity Centre Upper Dale Road Derby DE22 8BP	01332 774300
	Armstrong Centre St Marks Road Derby DE21 6AI	01332 365267
ICC	Boulton Lane Community Centre Boulton Lane Derby DE24 0BD	01332 573858
ICC	Bramblebrook Community Centre Stockbrook Street Derby DE22 3WH	01332 384395
ICC	Chaddesden Hall Community Centre Chaddesden Lane Chaddesden Derby DE21 6LL	01332 674634
CRCC	Chesapeake Community Centre Chesapeake Road Chaddesden Derby	
ICC	Chellaston Community Centre Barley Croft Chellaston Derby DE73 1UA	01332 690583
ICC	Chester Green Community Group Darley Playing Fields City Road Derby DE1 3SA	01332 360342
LCC	Chinese Community Centre 110-122 Abbey Street Derby	01332 342436

CRCC	Cotton Lane Activity Centre Cotton Lane Allenton Derby DE24 8GH	
ICC	Darley Abbey Community Centre Abbey Yard Darley Abbey Derby DE22 1DS	01332 557475
CRCC	Field Lane Community Centre Field Lane Alvaston Derby DE24 0GW	
	Gayton Activity Centre Gayton School Gayton Avenue Derby DE23 7GA	01332 270088
ICC	Grange Hall Community Centre Park Lane Littleover Derby DE23 6FX	01332 772626
LCC	Guru Ravidass Community Centre Brunswick Street Derby DE23 8PT	01332 272424
LCC	Hadari Nari Advice Centre 36 St James Road Derby	01332 360737
	Indian Community Centre Rawdon Street Derby DE23 6QR	01332 342892
CRCC	Keldholme Community Centre Gillamore Court Keldholme Lane Alvaston Derby DE2 0RU	
LCC	Madeley Centre Rosehill Street Derby	01332 347509
ICC	Mackworth Community Centre Prince Charles Avenue Derby DE22 4BG	01332 372075

LCC	Mandela Youth and Community Centre 179-181 Peartree Road Derby	01332 367848
ICC	Mickleover Community Centre Uttoxeter Road Derby DE3 0DA	01332 510726
LCC	Multi-Cultural Education Centre Dairyhouse Road Derby	01332 349989
CRCC	Normanton Activity Centre Normanton Park Normanton Derby DE23 8DA	
CRCC	Normanton Park Pavilion Normanton Park Derby DE23 8DA	
	The Number One Community Centre 1 St Chad's Road Derby DE23 6RS	01332 344 582
ICC	Nunsfield House Community Centre 33 Boulton Lane Derby DE24 0FD	01332 571113
ICC	Oakwood Community Centre Springwood Drive Oakwood Derby DE21 2QA	01332 833173
LCC	Open Centre 43 Peartree Road Derby	01332 360737
CRCC	Osmaston Community Centre Osmaston Park Derby DE24 9HY	
LCC	Pakistan Community Centre 103 Harrington Street Pear Tree Derby DE23 8PB	01332 774055
LCC	Polish Community Centre 18 Kedleston Road Derby	01332 348430

ICC	Roe Farm Community Centre Worcester Crescent Derby DE21 4HG	01332 340650
CRCC	Rykned Activity Centre Bedford Close Derby DE22 3HQ	01332 362319
ICC	St Augustine's Community Centre Almond Street Derby DE23 6LX	01332 766080
	St James Centre Malcom Street Derby DE22 8LU	01332 604080
LCC	SEEN Centre 5 Whiston Street Derby	01332 204550
ICC	Spondon Village Hall Community Centre Sitwell Street Spondon Derby DE21 7FG	01332 674240
CRCC	Stockbrook Street Activity Centre Stockbrook Street Derby DE22 3WH	01332 360743
ICC	Sunnyhill Community Centre Coleridge Street Derby DE23 8AF	01332 766498
LCC	Vietnamese Community Centre 91 Dairyhouse Road Derby DE23 8HQ	01332 291318
ICC	West End Community Centre Mackworth Road Derby DE22 3BL	01332 385502
LCC	West Indian Community Centre Carrington Street Derby	01332 371529

Community Centres Matter!

Findings of the Independent Community
Centre Survey 2002/2003 carried out by
Community and Play.

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Introduction

Community and Play support 16 Independent Community Centres in the city, all of which hold a lease with Derby City Council's Education Service.

This survey was undertaken partly at the request of the Networking Group which is a forum of voluntary management committee members from the Independent Community Centres. During discussions members of the Networking Group agreed that a document summarising the services provided by the independent centres and highlighting some of their current problems would be a useful promotional tool.

The increasing amount of red-tape that is involved in running community centres has resulted in many of the volunteers feeling overwhelmed and vulnerable when faced with the demands of licences, insurances, charity registration requirements and health and safety responsibilities.

The survey was also undertaken to support visits to all those centres made with the Lottery Officer to identify potential funding bids.

Additional information was gathered during the survey to feed into the corporate Community Building Survey which is currently being carried out by Estates. More detailed information on the condition, suitability and sufficiency of each building will be included on this corporate survey which should be completed by October 2003.

List of Centres Included in the Survey.

All of these centres hold leases from the Education Service. Under the leases, the city council are responsible for maintaining the fabric of the building and the community associations are responsible for all management and running costs as well as internal decoration.

Boulton Lane Park Community Centre:

Boulton Lane Park, Boulton Lane, Alvaston, Derby DE24 0AS

Bramblebrook Community Centre:

Stockbrook Street, Derby DE22 3WP

Chaddesden Hall Community Centre:

Chaddesden Lane, Chaddesden, Derby DE21 6LL

Chellaston Community Centre:

Barley Croft, Chellaston, Derby DE73 1UA

Chester Green Community Centre:

Darley Playing Fields, Chester Green, Derby DE1 3SA

Darley Abbey Village Hall:

Abbey Yard, Off New Road, Darley Abbey, Derby.

Grange Hall Community Centre:

Park Lane, Littleover, Derby DE23 6FX

Mackworth Community Centre:

Prince Charles Ave, Mackworth, Derby DE22 4BG

Mickleover Community Centre:

Uttoxeter Road, Mickleover, Derby DE3 5DA

Nunsfield House Community Centre:

Boulton Lane, Alvaston, Derby DE24 0SD

Oakwood Community Centre:

Springwood Drive, Oakwood, Derby DE21 2QA

Roe Farm Community Centre:

Worcester Cres, Chaddesden, Derby DE21 4HG

Spondon Village Hall Community Centre:

Sitwell Street, Spondon, Derby DE21 7FG

St Augustine's Community Centre:

Almond Street, Derby DE23 6LX

Sunnyhill Community Centre:

Coleridge Street, Sunnyhill, Derby DE23 8AF

West End Community Centre:

Mackworth Road, Derby DE22 3BL

What the Survey Shows

The following are some of the main findings of the survey.

Wealth of Community Activity. The survey clearly shows the wealth of community activity which takes place in the city's independent community centres and the commitment of the volunteers who keep these centres running. The timetables show that there are well over 230 community groups using these facilities. Because community centres are local they cater for many of the socially excluded in every area who do not have access to transport or to more costly leisure activities.

Many centres boast that they cater from "the cradle to the grave" with baby clinics, parent and toddler groups, dance and martial arts groups, aerobics, bowls, and whist drives to mention only a few.

Amount of people benefiting from Independent Community Centres. The survey shows that around 440,390 visits are made to centres each year.

Cost Effectiveness of Independent Community Centres. The most noticeable feature of the survey was the amount of community provision that comes from the voluntary centres at very little cost to the Council. At a cost of roughly 30p per head per user compared to an average of £1.50 per head per user at Council Run Centres, independently run centres provide excellent value as providers of community facilities in the city.

Varying Usage. While the timetables of some centres show that nearly every session is filled, some show a number of blank sessions. There are various reasons for this which are explored in more detail in the section *Factors Affecting Usage Figures*.

Building Condition. Community Matters, which is the National Federation of Community Associations, identifies the fabric of the building as one of the key factors in the successful management of community buildings. The Backlog Maintenance figures in Appendix r shows that there is a total backlog of

£627,378 for independent community centres which compares to a total backlog of £6,642,947 for community buildings across the city.

While the Maintenance Department have to work with such backlogs and prioritise work needed, community centres will inevitably remain inadequately maintained unless external funding can be accessed. However funders are unwilling to pay for work that is the responsibility of a local authority.

Many independent centre management committees feel very frustrated at the lack of funding for repairs. In some cases, this can be the start of a downward spiral of less users, less income and less volunteers.

Weight of Responsibility. As all community associations holding a lease of a building are currently required under Charity Law to become registered charities, every member of the management committee is a charity trustee. This means that helping run a community centre is no longer the casual pastime that it once was, but is weighted down with legislation. Charity Law has been revised and consolidated in the Charities Act 1992 and 1993 and these have heightened the awareness of existing responsibilities of charities and charity trustees.

This deters some people from volunteering to stand on management committees and causes concern to those already standing. Not only this, but the numerous licences, permissions and insurances that are needed to run a community building often leaves management committees feeling vulnerable.

The fewer people who are willing to stand on community centre committees, the less viable the long term prospects of that centre will be.

Factors Affecting Usage Figures

At the Networking Meeting in May 2003, community centre management representatives highlighted what they felt some of the reasons were for the differences in user figures. They are listed below in no particular order.

- ❖ **The size of the centre and the number of rooms available for hire.**
Centres with more than one room to hire out generally have greater versatility to offer community groups. However, this can also lead to higher overheads.
- ❖ **The location of the property.** Centres located in busy areas have a higher local profile and are more likely to have higher usage than those in more remote locations, away from other amenities. West End Community Centre, for example is hemmed in between parkland and university buildings. Few people pass the centre and it is fairly hidden away from the local community.
- ❖ **The age and size of the local population.** This affects the type of user group using the centres and also often affects the makeup of the management committees.
- ❖ **The strength of the committee.** Community centres that have reasonably large committees where several people shoulder the responsibility of running the centre are more likely to thrive as independent centres long term. Centres where all the responsibility is shouldered by one or two individuals may run successfully while those individuals are willing and able to carry out the work, but once they retire, past experience shows that it is very difficult to form a new management committee from existing user groups.
- ❖ **Publicity.** Some of the busier centres do not need to advertise their services as they already are in the position of having to turn users away. However, some centres that are not so well used feel that they would

benefit from some form of advertising or publicity, but often do not have the resources or contacts to do this.

- ❖ **Charges.** Over pricing could be one reason for centres not being well used, though in practice this is not often the case.
- ❖ **Standard of premises.** Many management committees felt that the overall standard of the premises was outside of their control. Centres that were built with a relatively short life expectancy are still being used and most of those are experiencing problems of deterioration. Inside the building however, there is a high level of pride in the furnishings and decoration which is the responsibility of the management committees. A centre which is welcoming and looks cared for is more likely to attract, and keep its user groups.
- ❖ **Vandalism.** Many centres, particularly those built on parks, suffer from ongoing vandalism. In some cases this has caused user groups to leave as they feel vulnerable, particularly during evening bookings.
- ❖ **Outside lighting.** Some centres highlighted this as a possible cause of differences in centre usage. Centres where users feel safe leaving after dark is more likely to be well used at night.
- ❖ **Car parking.** Some centres have large car parks, while others such as Roe Farm and St Augustine's have little or none. Lack of parking restricts use of a centre by larger groups where many of the users are expected to travel by car.
- ❖ **Bar facilities.** 6 community centres currently have permanent bar facilities. Others use occasional licences to sell alcohol at special events. There are very strict guidelines on charities undertaking trading, so most bars are run by separate trading associations with all the profits being paid over to the community association. Having a bar is no guarantee of high usage though, as some centres with a bar in use during the evening do not seem to have high daytime usage.

- ❖ **Heating.** As many users of community centres are pre school or pensioners, a good heating system is vital to a well run centre. Since the centres are responsible for all their own service bills though, it can often be a tricky task to keep the heating high enough to keep users happy, but not too high as to waste the centres scarce resources.
- ❖ **Storage.** Out of the 16 independent community centres only one currently has sufficient storage for the needs of all its user groups! The demand for storage space is an ongoing difficulty for management committees. Insufficient storage may mean that some groups that need lots of storage, for example a Parent and Toddler Group, would have to be turned away.

Development Potential

Each centre, even the best used, has at least one if not more negative factors. Where a centre has more negatives than positives, then the management committee will have a harder job running the centre successfully and centre usage is more likely to be low.

Given time and resources the development potential of each centre could be assessed and improved using the above factors for guidance. Obviously some of the factors cannot be changed (for example location and population) but significant improvements could be made to centres if resources were available and targeted at the areas where each centre is struggling.

Recommendations

Given the excellent service currently being provided by the independent community centres, and the latent potential that exists within all centres, the independent management committees have identified key areas of support required from the city council which will both enhance existing provision and allow significant developments in the future.

All recommendations have been endorsed by the Community and Play Team.

- **Improve the building maintenance of community centres.** This is continually highlighted as the highest priority of the independent management committees. Current budget allocations are inadequate and procedures used are often ineffective. Ongoing maintenance problems are not only a potential health and safety hazard but are often a deterrent to attracting new users/user groups.
- **Provide more staff to support voluntary management committees and give on site help and advice.** Many of the associations are managed by a core of 2 or 3 volunteers, many of whom find it increasingly difficult to deal with the red tape involved in managing community centres. Greater support at a grass roots level would help prevent community associations from folding and handing their buildings back to the Council.
- **Help with publicity.** Marketing support for either individual centres or to raise the profile of centres as a whole. This will improve both the image of the centres and increase usage figures accordingly.
- **Help with sourcing impartial and expert advice.** The huge amount of red tape that is increasingly involved in running community centres means that they occasionally need expert, trustworthy advice, to ensure compliance with the law, Health and Safety and all the other guidelines they have to follow.

- **Provide capacity building support to centres that need it – both to build the capacity of the association and the building itself.** There needs to be recognition given to the fact that although a centre may be fairly well used, it may be reliant on a very few volunteers. To ensure the long-term sustainability of independent centres, capacity building with associations is of vital importance.
- **Give more appreciation of the voluntary community centres from a higher level.** It is important that volunteers managing community centres feel recognised and valued for the work that they do. As partners of the City Council, they are providing a service to the people of Derby in a very cost efficient way and this should be fully acknowledged and recognised.

For the centres to move forward it is crucial that a coherent and strategic vision is developed. The Community Buildings Review, coupled with documents of this nature, provide an ideal starting point.

Centres can be, and often are, focal points for many members of the local community. They play an important role in community cohesion, support many thriving activities/groups and can be instrumental in helping the regeneration of excluded or disadvantaged communities.

The recommendations made are not exhaustive. They provide ideas from the people who experience the frustrations and successes on a daily basis – the people who run the centres as volunteers on behalf of the communities where they reside.

The unanimous feeling amongst the committees is that they provide an excellent service, which can only be enhanced if the community centres are seen as an integral part of the city's vision.

Approximate Annual Usage Summary

Centre	Approx no of users per year	Approx annual hours of usage per year
Boulton Lane	23,951	2,000
Bramblebrook	14,697	962
Chaddesden Hall	14,289	1,365
Chellaston	39,080	6,645
Chester Green	19,615	1,635
Darley Abbey	16,495	1,395
Grange Hall	33,024	6,586
Mackworth	16,004	865
Mickleover	62,466	1,833
Nunsfield House	65,123	19,038
Oakwood	20,418	6,322
Roe Farm	29,608	2,765
Spondon	32,833	1,890
St Augustines	20,435	2,641
Sunnyhill	18,569	1,804
West End	13,783	1,013
Total Approx No	440,390	58,758

The above figures are approximates based on information given by the community associations managing the community centres.

Appendix 2

Comparative Costs of Independent Community Centres and Council Run Community Centres

Derby City Council Education Service Independent Community Centre Budget Excluding CEC (Central Establishment Charges)	£55,586
Approx Maintenance Costs 2001/2002	£78,000
Total Budget spent on Independent Community Centres	£133,586
Approximate Annual Users of Independent Community Centres	440,390
Approximate cost per head per user for Independent Centres (Total budget/annual users)	£0.30
Approximate cost per head per user for Council Run Centres Excluding CEC (Based on 2002 figures produced by APSE*)	£1.50
Approximate cost of running current independent community centres as council run centres (£1.50 x 418,972)	£628,458
Approximate amount of saving to the city council each year (£628,458 - £133,586)	£500,000

*APSE = Association of Public Service Excellence

Appendix 3

Boulton Lane Park Community Centre

User Group Information

Group	Approx No of lets per year	Average attendance per session	Approx no of users per year
Playgroup	273	26	7,098
Senior Citizens	43	35	1,505
Shelton Striders	43	40	1,720
Children's Parties	24	24	576
Laurie's School of Dance	129	48	6,192
Karate	43	12	516
Kaleidoscope	43	30	1,290
Martial Arts	43	8	344
Mother & Baby	39	40	1,560
MP's Surgery	12	12	144
JAS	53	12	639
Summer Playscheme	20	26	522
Boulton Babes	39	15	585
Footballers	21	60	1,260

Approx No of Users Per Year

23,951

The above figures are approximates based on information given by the community association managing the community centre.

Appendix 3

Bramblebrook Community Centre

User group information

Group	Approx No of lets per year	Average attendance per session	Approx no of users per year
Over 60's	43	50	2,150
Stroke Club	43	70	3,010
Line Dancing	43	15	645
Children's Dance Class	43	6	258
Karate	43	20	860
Bingo Social Night	50	50	2,500
Saturday Social Night	50	45	2,250
Private Parties	12	70	840
Monday Bingo	43	10	430
Jumble Sales	24	50	1,200
Annual Carnival	1	200	200
Election	1	354	354

Approx No of Users Per Year

14,697

The above figures are approximates based on information given by the community association managing the community centre.

Appendix 3

Chaddesden Hall Community Centre

User group information

Group	Approx No of lets per year	Average attendance per session	Approx no of users per year
Good Companions	43	21	903
First Stage Dance School	39	20	780
First Stage Dance School	39	40	1,560
Women's Institute	12	40	480
Ladies Circle	11	20	220
First Steps Playgroup	39	48	1,872
Centre Stage Dance School	39	12	468
Centre Stage Dance School	39	10	390
Centre Stage Dance School	39	35	1,365
Ladies Coffee Club	12	14	168
Kung Fu	43	10	430
Karate	43	20	860
Karate	43	25	1,075
Show Ring Dog Training	43	35	1,505
Children's Parties	36	25	900
Adult Parties	12	60	720
Elections	1	593	593

Approx No of Users Per Year

14,289

The above figures are approximates based on information given by the community association managing the community centre.

Appendix 3

Chellaston Community Centre

User group information

Group	Approx No of lets per year	Average attendance per session	Approx no of users per year
Playgroup	234	30	7,020
Monday Club	50	25	1,250
1st Chellaston Rainbows	100	17	1,700
1st Chellaston Brownies	50	24	1,200
Shape and Tone	50	20	1,000
Watercolour Class	100	18	1,800
Ladies Aerobics	50	15	750
Mother and Toddler	50	24	1,200
C Green School of Dance	200	35	7,000
Martial Arts	50	20	1,000
Ladies Step and Tone	50	15	750
Chellaston Art Club	50	15	750
Tae Kwon Do	50	30	1,500
Line Dancers	50	50	2,500
Child Hearing Clinic	50	12	600
Baby Clinic	50	20	1,000
Youth Club	50	56	2,800
Self Defence	50	12	600
Kickboxing	100	22	2,200
Football Club	50	30	1,500
Parties/Private Bookings	24	40	960

Approx No of Users Per Year

39,080

The above figures are approximates based on information given by the community association managing the community centre.

Appendix 3

Chester Green Community Centre

User group information

Group	Approx No of lets per year	Average attendance per session	Approx no of users per year
Monday Lunch Club	49	20	980
Painting Group	49	6	294
Rainbows	43	12	516
Brownies	43	30	1,290
Art Group	49	6	294
Art Group 2	50	25	1250
Yoga	49	15	735
Disco Dancing	49	24	1,176
Slimmer's World	49	20	980
History (Monthly)	12	40	480
Whist	49	6	294
Bingo	49	35	1,715
Monthly Social	12	75	900
Private Bookings	52	150	7,800
Youth Affenders	4	6	24
Elections	1	437	437
Dancarama	45	10	450

Approx No of Users Per Year

19,615

The above figures are approximates based on information given by the community association managing the community centre.

Appendix 3

Darley Abbey Village Hall

User group information

Group	Approx No of lets per year	Average attendance per session	Approx no of users per year
Over 50's Keep Fit	43	15	645
Entertainment Group 1	21	20	420
Entertainment Group 2	21	20	420
Mother and Baby	39	30	1,170
Brownies	39	20	780
Guides	39	20	780
Art group	43	10	430
Dog training	43	15	645
Step Class	43	15	645
Aerobics	43	30	1,290
Yoga	43	20	860
Wine Circle	12	40	480
Occasional Bookings	96	50	4,800
Theatre Performances	15	80	1,200
Association events	10	100	1,000
Election	1	750	750
Chi-Kung Society	12	15	180

Approx No of Users Per Year

16,495

The above figures are approximates based on information given by the community association managing the community centre.

Appendix 3

Grange Hall Community Centre

User group information

Group	Approx No of lets per year	Average attendance per session	Approx no of users per year
Derby Sketching Club	215	35	7,525
Badminton	129	8	1,032
C Robinson Dance School	86	40	3,440
Table tennis	21	20	420
Karate	180	30	5,400
Sangam Ladies Group	43	20	860
Fushia & Gardening Soc	12	30	360
Art group	21	7	147
Yew Tree WI	12	30	360
Football	24	20	480
Peacemakers	12	30	360
Bonsai Club	12	35	420
Health and Fitness	43	25	1,075
Conservative Coffee Club	12	24	288
Ladies Coffee Club	12	24	288
Grange Ladies	24	7	168
Bowls	43	20	860
Towns Womens Guild	43	24	1,032
Occasional Bookings	24	250	6,000
Elections	1	1009	1,009
Martial Arts	50	30	1500

Approx No of Users Per Year

33,024

The above figures are approximates based on information given by the community association managing the community centre.

Appendix 3

Mackworth Community Centre

User group information

Group	Approx No of lets per year	Average attendance per session	Approx no of users per year
Sure Start	48	20	960
Tai Qwando	132	40	5280
MASH	43	25	1,075
Friday Club	24	20	480
Bingo	43	40	1,720
Keep Fit	43	10	430
Parties	60	80	4800
Election	1	587	587
Fostering Meetings	3	10	30
Summer Playscheme	21	32	672

Approx No of Users Per Year

16,004

The above figures are approximates based on information given by the community association managing the community centre.

Appendix 3

Mickleover Community Centre

User group information

Group	Approx No of lets per year	Average attendance per session	Approx no of users per year
Soft Play	147	80	11,760
TipToe Dancing	129	30	3,870
Short Mat Bowls	48	20	960
Painting Group	48	20	960
Ladies' Barbershop Choir	43	30	1,290
NFSH Healers	48	6	288
Social and Dancing	48	30	1,440
Flab-u-less Class	48	20	960
Shape - exercise	48	15	720
Music Time	48	40	1,920
Karate	96	40	3840
Village Ladies Group	11	30	330
WI Market	48	30	1440
Mickleover Tots	48	40	1920
Railway Group	48	35	1680
Café	240	120	28,800

Approx No of Users Per Year

62,466

The above figures are approximates based on information given by the community association managing the community centre.

Appendix 3

Nunsfield House Community Centre

User group information

Group	Approx No of lets per year	Average attendance per session	Approx no of users per year
The Radio Club	12	30	360
The Library	215	20	4,300
Oakwood Ladies	43	30	1,290
Wetherby Centre	86	20	1,720
Carouselle Dance Club	86	20	1,720
Derby Solo Club	21	50	1,050
Bowls Club	21	25	525
Wyndham Guild	43	25	1,075
Judo Club	43	10	430
Field Lane FC	12	15	180
Budgerigar Society	21	20	420
Line Dancing	21	20	420
Tea Dance	43	65	2795
CB Club	21	15	315
Alvaston Labour Party	12	10	120
Angling Club	12	8	96
Private parties	96	175	16,800
Social Club	476	65	30,940
Election	1	567	567

Approx No of Users Per Year

65,123

The above figures are approximates based on information given by the community association managing the community centres.

Appendix 3

Oakwood Community Centre

User group information

Group	Approx No of lets per year	Average attendance per session	Approx no of users per year
Playgroup	195	25	4,875
Clinic	43	20	860
Evergreen	43	45	1,935
Mother and Toddler	39	15	585
Bowling	43	20	860
C Green Dance Class(M)	43	20	860
Weightwatchers	43	20	860
Rainbows	39	15	585
2nd Brownies	39	10	390
Martial Arts	43	12	516
Shape	43	15	645
Cubs	39	15	585
Karate	43	20	860
J Bowskill Dance Class	43	30	1,290
C Green Dance Class (W)	43	30	1,290
French Class	39	6	234
Parties	72	30	2,160
Elections	1	428	428
Sunday Karate	40	15	600

Approx No of Users Per Year

20,418

The above figures are approximates based on information given by the community association managing the community centre.

Appendix 3

Roe Farm Community Centre

User group information

Group	Approx No of lets per year	Average attendance per session	Approx no of users per year
Playgroup	80	23	1840
Monday Club	43	48	2,064
Self Defense	86	50	4,300
Boxing	129	36	4,644
Roe Farm Band	86	60	5,160
Bingo	43	48	2,064
Summer Playscheme	20	67	1,380
Easter Playscheme	8	70	510
Junior Activity Scheme	215	33	6,950
Elections	1	279	279
Derwent	35	3	105
Neighbourhood Watch	12	20	240
Youth Offending	12	6	72

Approx No of Users Per Year

29,608

The above figures are approximates based on information given by the community association managing the community centre.

Appendix 3

Spondon Village Hall Community Centre

User group information

Group	Approx No of lets per year	Average attendance per session	Approx no of users per year
Mirror Ball Dance Club	49	14	686
Jetsets	49	15	735
Dancing School	49	40	1,960
Whist Drive	49	20	980
Historical Society	12	60	720
Shape (Tues a.m.)	49	16	784
Shape (Tues p.m.)	49	26	1,274
Slimming World	49	40	1,960
Shape (Wed a.m.)	49	10	490
Line Dancing	49	20	980
Royal British Legion	12	10	120
Derby Wildlife	12	30	360
Asterdale W.I.	12	40	480
Camera Club	49	20	980
Mother and Toddler	49	40	1,960
Afternoon W.I. (Thurs)	24	20	480
Weightwatchers	49	40	1,960
Labour Party	12	16	192
Cameo Club	24	16	384
Clinic	49	80	3,920
Wilson Dance	24	26	624
Martial Arts	49	20	980
Mothers Union	12	14	168
SCA Meeting	3	30	90
Police Surgery	4	20	80
Table Top	11	120	1,320
Childrens Parties	30	50	1,500
Line Dances/R.Brit Leg	17	110	1,870
Jumble Sales	12	100	1,200
Adult Celebrations	22	90	1,980
Village Quiz	1	30	30
Slimming World (extra)	1	18	18
Church Auction	1	150	150
Methodist Coffee	4	60	240
City Council (Area 2)	1	50	50
Remembrance Day (RBL)	1	150	150
Womens Inst. Dinner	2	30	60
Elections	1	918	918

Approx No of Users Per Year

32,833

The above figures are approximates based on information given by the community association managing the community centre.

Appendix 3

St Augustines Community Centre

User group information

Group	Approx No of lets per year	Average attendance per session	Approx no of users per year
Whist Drive	250	12	3,000
Dancing Tues p.m.	49	30	1,470
Marlow Players	147	20	2,940
Dancing Wed a.m.	49	8	392
Bingo Wed p.m.	49	20	980
Cathedral Hand Bell Ringers	49	15	735
New Opera Company	49	25	1,225
Dancing Wed p.m.	49	20	980
Moxon Dance School p.m.	49	12	588
Dancing Fri p.m.	49	30	1,470
Sun Church Group	98	50	4,900
Scouts Day	1	150	150
Fairs	6	50	300
Children's Parties	12	25	300
Toc H	11	15	165
Scrabble	2	60	120
Children's Disabled group	14	10	140
Jumble Sales	3	30	90
Moxon Dance School a.m.	49	10	490

Approx No of Users Per Year

20,435

The above figures are approximates based on information given by the community association managing the community centre.

Appendix 3

Sunnyhill Community Centre

User group information

Group	Approx No of lets per year	Average attendance per session	Approx no of users per year
Monday Bowls	49	29	1,421
Surestart	43	35	1,505
Tuesday Clinic	43	35	1,505
Tuesday Bowls	49	15	735
Aerobics	43	20	860
Youth Club	78	30	2,340
Thursday Bowls	49	20	980
Bingo	49	35	1,715
Bowls Thursday p.m.	49	26	1,274
Friday Surgeries	36	15	540
Bar Social Sat p.m.	49	35	1,715
Sunday Bowls	49	37	1,813
J.A.S.	43	15	1,279
Sunday p.m. Bar	49	10	490
Election	1	397	397

Approx No of Users Per Year

18,569

The above figures are approximates based on information given by the community association managing the community centre.

Appendix 3

West End Community Centre

User group information

Group	Approx No of lets per year	Average attendance per session	Approx no of users per year
Stroke Club	43	35	1,505
Wednesday Dancing	43	58	2,494
Tea Dancing	43	50	2,150
Dysphasia	43	24	1,032
Church Youth Club	43	42	1,806
Short Mat Bowls	43	18	774
Tai Chi	43	30	1,290
Tai Chi (Sun)	43	30	1,290
Football (Winter Only)	21	30	630
Summer Playscheme	20	33	660
Easter Playscheme	8	19	152

Approx No of Users Per Year

13,783

The above figures are approximates based on information given by the community association managing the community centre.

Appendix C

1. Name of the Community Centre			
2. Date of visit		3. Time of Visit – am/pm/eve	
4. Sex of Interviewee		M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Home Post Code of Interviewee			
6. Age			
<16	<input type="checkbox"/>	16-25	<input type="checkbox"/>
26-45	<input type="checkbox"/>	46-65	<input type="checkbox"/>
>65	<input type="checkbox"/>		
7. How did they get to the Centre?			
Walk <input type="checkbox"/> Cycle <input type="checkbox"/> Car <input type="checkbox"/> Public Transport <input type="checkbox"/>			
8. How long in minutes did it take them to get to the Centre?			
<5	<input type="checkbox"/>	6-10	<input type="checkbox"/>
11-15	<input type="checkbox"/>	16-20	<input type="checkbox"/>
>20	<input type="checkbox"/>		
9. Why did they come to this Community Centre?			
Social <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Sport <input type="checkbox"/> Hobby <input type="checkbox"/>			
To get advice <input type="checkbox"/> To access a service <input type="checkbox"/> For training <input type="checkbox"/>			
10. How often do they come to the Community Centre?			
Every day <input type="checkbox"/> Twice/week <input type="checkbox"/> Once/week <input type="checkbox"/>			
Every 2 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> Once/month <input type="checkbox"/> Every 3 months <input type="checkbox"/>			
Once/year <input type="checkbox"/>			
11. How satisfied are they with this Community Centre?			
Very satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Quite satisfied <input type="checkbox"/>			
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied <input type="checkbox"/>			
Quite dissatisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Very dissatisfied <input type="checkbox"/>			

12. What do they think of the facilities provided by this Community Centre?

Very good ☐ Quite good ☐ Acceptable ☐
Quite Poor ☐ Very Poor ☐

13. What was the outcome of this visit?

Very successful or enjoyable ☐
Quite successful or enjoyable ☐
Acceptable ☐
Not very successful or enjoyable ☐
Not worth coming ☐

14. What other facilities or activities would they like this Community Centre to provide?

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

15. In what ways do they think the City's Community Centres might be improved?

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	